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THE MAN BEHIND THE STRAWBERRY



1909 - 1910

TESTIMONIALS

Illinois, April 15, 1907.
Plants received in fine shape.

RALPH THOMSON.

Texas, Sept. 18, 1908.

About ten years ago we bought a large bill of plants of you and we were well pleased with them.

N. B. HUDNALL & SONS.

Fla., Sept. 19, 1907.

I have just returned from a visit to my sons at Pensacola, Fla., to whom I had you ship some plants for a former season and they having done so well, would like to have some again.

W. B. BONACKER.

Fla., June 10, 1908.

I have used your strawberry plants for several seasons and am well pleased with them. They always come true to name and free from disease and are the most prolific I have ever grown.

J. L. GREEN.

Tenn., April 8, 1908.

Plants received all O. K.

J. W. GREGORY.

Kansas, March 27, 1908.

Received your plants all right. I am well pleased with them.

JOE HOWARD.

Texas, March 26, 1908.

The Klondykes I got from you are just fine—the largest and best berries I ever saw. They are all going on the market now as number one, from \$3.25 to \$4.00 per crate. Please send me your catalog.

T. E. WILTSIE.

Ark., Feb. 2, 1908.

Your strawberries give the best satisfaction of any I ever handled.

Keep up the standard.
CHAS. M. HORTON.

Ind., Feb., 1908.

The plants I got of you three years ago did well, grew more berries than any other patch round here.

ALBERT E. BRIDGES.

Ill., March 23, 1908.

The plants we bought of you last year are doing better than any we ever set out before.

F. C. CAPRON.

Miss., March 24, 1908.

The plants came to me in good condition and are now growing in the field. I am well pleased and am thankful for your service.

E. C. SHINE.

Fla., Oct. 2, 1907.

The strawberry plants I ordered of you came safe to hand and I find them all O. K. Kindly ship me at once by express 10,000 more.

J. H. PHILLIPS.

Texas, Aug. 26, 1907.

The asparagus plants I received from you last fall are all that possibly could be desired. I have a perfect stand and indications are that I will get a good cutting from them next spring.

F. W. BRITT.

La., Dec. 7, 1905.

I received the plants ordered, they were fine and very satisfactory. I have succeeded beautifully with Klondyke.

MRS. L. H. BROOKS.

Ind., April 20, 1909.

I wish to know if you have sold all of your plants as some of my neighbors are wanting some, and part of those that got plants out of the other order would like to have more. All have been well pleased and thought the plants were the finest they had ever seen. If you can fill another order this spring for us will send it by return mail.

ALBERT E. BRIDGES.

Fla., Dec. 22, 1908.

The strawberry plants you sent us (1,000 Klondyke) began to grow at once and are now in a fair way to make good strong plants. Thanking you for sending the plants to arrive in such good shape, I remain,

Yours truly,

A. W. BERLIS.

Fla., Dec. 10, 1908.

The strawberry plants came in early last week and I have them all planted. I want to thank you very much for the kind of plants you sent me. They are just the kind I want and it is a pleasure to look at them now; they look like they had been planted a month instead of a week, and they certainly are the finest plants I have ever received anywhere.

P. PETERSON.

Fla., Aug. 2, 1908.

The 30,000 Klondykes proved a perfect success. Thanking you for your past favors, I remain,

H. RAWLINS.

Fla., July 8, 1908.

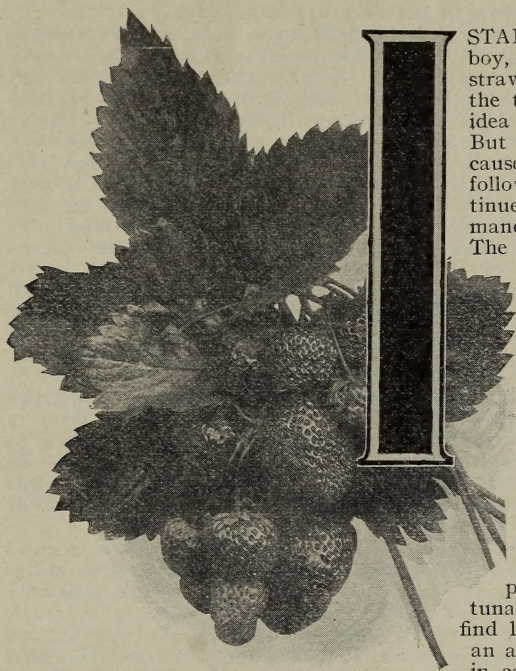
I have been buying strawberry plants from you for several years and find them not only true to name, but better plants than those I have seen from other places. Last season the berries grown by me from your plants were admitted to be the best and largest shipped from this station.

E. J. PRESCOTT.

Fla., June 21, 1909.

I have bought a good many plants, but yours are the best I ever bought, and the truest to name.

E. J. PRESCOTT.



I STARTED in a small way as a farmer's boy, at the age of nineteen, the growing of strawberry plants. I cannot say that at the time of this original effort I had an idea of making a life occupation of it. But early successes in plant growing caused me, like any other who would follow the natural trend of affairs, to continue year after year. There was a demand for my kind of plants then as now. The success of my strawberry plant growing industry cannot be attributed to mere luck—I grew good plants. Luck and poor plants don't run along in the same channel, and good plants do not require luck to build a business. The thinking person who will stop long enough to investigate unusual successes will find quality and not chance built the business.

The scene of this early and successful effort of mine was enacted in the county to the north of my present location. It was there that I found the growing of strawberry plants a congenial business, and fortunate it was for me (or for anyone) to find life's successful vocation at so early an age. During a brief series of years, in connection with the plant growing, I grew nursery stock and disposed of it by taking my own orders during the winter months by riding horseback over as much adjacent country as possible for one man to reach. The nursery business grew and as it grew it prospered, but the call of plant growing was strong and I sold the nursery and have continuously devoted my efforts, my best efforts, to the strawberry plant.

The manifested satisfaction of my customers has made the satisfaction of both planter and grower mutual, and it is my pleasure to know I have those among my customers who buy and plant my plants year after year, and I have their assurance that their patronage is mine so long as they may continue to plant strawberries—the one fruit that yields per acre dollars and cents in abundance; or where a supply for table use may be had from a small plat of ground.

Let me assure my readers right here that with my strawberry plants go a life time of successful experience. My plants are PLANTS in every sense of the word, and worth more than they cost you—they are the only plants either a large or small strawberry grower can afford to plant.

From the meager business of the early years of strawberry plant growing my business has increased to require the plant production from 200 acres of a large farm of sandy loam in Dutch Creek Valley, just a few minutes drive from Anna, and only a few miles from the Mississippi River. From my residence in Anna can be seen the hills of Missouri, as well as the highest point in the State of Illinois. These facts will make it easy for the reader to understand why, at Anna, the Illinois Central Railroad has the highest piece of trackage on its line between Chicago and New Orleans. And from the topmost point in Anna, where my residence is located, you can look in no direction but what can be seen hillsides and valleys on which and in which the strawberry flourishes as only a plant in its natural home can prosper.

Anna is in a natural strawberry country, and this fact emphasizes in an indisputable manner my claim to the production of unexcelled, unequalled plants.

It is just as natural for the best strawberry plants to grow in this location

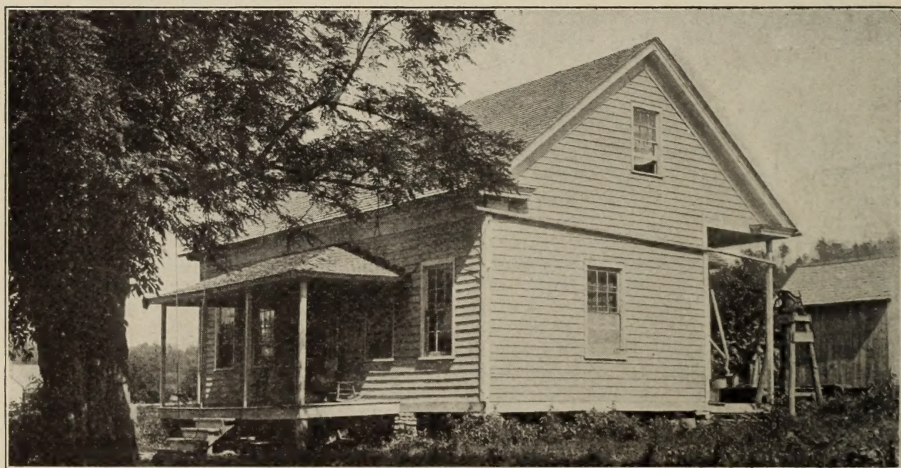
as it is natural for the big trees to grow in California, for polar bears to inhabit the cold north, or for cotton to grow in the Sunny South.

My location, which is so favorable for the production of strawberry plants, has a great deal to do with their quality. This location has more favorable conditions for the production of strawberry plants of the highest quality than any location in the United States. The soil, climate and seasons are ideal for this purpose. My plants are sought after by growers from the Southern states because they have more vitality, more energy and better bearing qualities than those grown in the South. My plants have the needed rest and dormant season which nature intended the strawberry plant should have and which is very essential to their bearing qualities. For these same reasons my plants are also in great demand in Southern California. These facts are supported by numerous testimonials which I receive from these sections. In these localities my plants produce crops that are a matter of wonderment to the growers. My plants also have many advantages over those grown in the far North, East or West, because of the climate, soil and other favored conditions of this locality that do not exist elsewhere. The black, heavy soil of the West, the extreme cold of the North, the unfavorable conditions of the East, are but few of the many things that make my plants superior to those grown in those sections.

Through the alternation of crops, 200 acres of my large farm are employed each year in the growing of strawberry plants. The balance of the farm is devoted to growing clover, stock peas and feed. But little area is devoted to actually producing ripened berries—the only ones grown to maturity are to test to my own satisfaction that the berry is what it should be, and so I will know what and how to tell my customers and prospective customers just what can be expected from any variety described in this catalog.

Twenty-five million plants a year! Sounds like a good many. It is a good many. They would make one row 75,000,000 feet long, or over 14,200 miles. In other words, my sale of plants for two years would (if it were possible) make a row of strawberries around the world with enough to spare to reach from New York to San Francisco, or would plant a border all the way around the entire United States, or would consume nearly 14,000 acres of land. To haul the plants each season, as packed for shipment, would require a train of twenty-five cars.

When a person handles twenty-five million plants a year he is entitled to call himself as I do, "the strawberry plant man." And in addition to this I am growing two million asparagus plants.



Mr. Fisher's Residence on the Farm

The strawberry plant farm is equipped with everything that is necessary to make a success of this peculiar, unusual business. The first essential is labor. Mr. D. A. Fisher, the field foreman, is a native of southern Illinois, and the packing house foreman, Mr. W. A. Coleman, is a native of North Carolina, and each have occupied their respective positions for years and have thoroughly accustomed themselves to the Thomas way of doing things.

In building up this business, which is one of the largest, if not the largest, establishment of the kind, I have been assisted by these men who have had the welfare of this business as much at heart as myself. My foremen have grown up in the business with me and are men of unusual ability, and by many years of experience have acquired a wonderfully thorough knowledge of this work.

A dozen residence properties on the farm shelter only a portion of the labor required in handling this business that grows each succeeding year. A large, commodious packing house, with a basement under all of it, is a busy place for six out of every twelve months. A dozen horses and mules furnish motive power for this, a business where other power cannot be installed. The telephone plays its part and would be almost indispensable in the conduct of this extensive plant growing industry—six are installed at various points and each does its part to facilitate the work.

With all the advantages enumerated there is not one more important than the fact that I offer you plants grown in an ideal climate—a strawberry climate. It is easy for any one to know that plants so grown are sturdy and transplanting will not nor does not in a noticeable measure interfere with their growth, development or fruit production.

GENERAL INFORMATION

LOCATION.

I am located in Southern Illinois, about thirty-six miles north of Cairo, and about 100 miles south of St. Louis. This location is in about the same latitude as Richmond and San Francisco.

MY PLANTS.

My plants are propagated from the best, thriftiest and strongest plants. These selections for propagating are carefully made so as to improve the varieties and bearing qualities. Fruit growers are fast learning that plants taken from fruiting beds and poorly grown are not as good as my improved varieties.

I grow my strawberry plants especially for the plants, not for fruit. I plant



Mr. Coleman's Residence on the Farm

each variety separately and dig all the plants; therefore you get nice, large, well-rooted ones—whereas, if you buy them from farmers or nurserymen that grow them for fruit, you get only the small plants from center of rows.

GUARANTEE OF GENUINENESS.

I exercise the greatest care to keep my plants pure and true to name, and hold myself in readiness to replace, on proof, all stock that may prove otherwise. But it is mutually agreed between the purchaser and myself that I shall not be liable for any amount greater than the original price of the goods.

INSPECTION.

A certificate of inspection from the State Entomologist will be attached to each and every package of plants.

REFERENCE—ANNA NATIONAL BANK.

TERMS OF PAYMENT.

Cash with order unless otherwise especially agreed. Plants will be sent C. O. D. when one-third the amount accompanies the order.

REMITTANCES.

May be made by New York, Chicago or St. Louis Draft, Postoffice, or Express Order, or Registered Letter.

SHIPPING FACILITIES.

Anna is centrally located, which gives us easy access to all parts of the United States. Here we have fast trains, which deliver goods across the country in all directions.

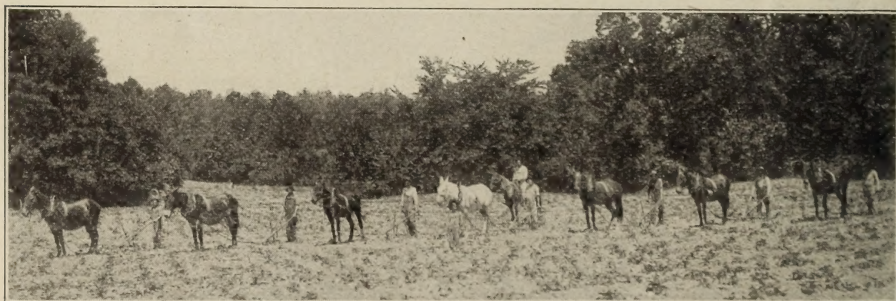
We get special discounts from the regular express rates, which make the cost of transportation by express cheap.

We have here at Anna and Jonesboro the Southern, American and Adams Express Companies, and Illinois Central and Mobile & Ohio Railroads.

Jonesboro, the county seat of this (Union) county, immediately joins Anna, and the two are almost one and the same city. Shipments made from either Anna or Jonesboro.

SHIPPING SEASON.

My regular shipping season commences October 1st. However, I am sometimes able to send out some plants in September. This, however, depends upon



Cultivating Strawberry Plants on the Farm

season and weather. I continue digging and shipping during the entire fall, winter and spring until May 1st or later. I am sometimes delayed a short time by freezing weather during the months of January and February, but usually able to ship any time during these months.

PLANTS BY MAIL.

I make a specialty of sending plants in small quantities by mail. Those wishing to obtain a few of one or more sorts can order in this manner. See my price list for postpaid rates.

EXPRESS RATES.

The classification on strawberry plants is such as to enable me to secure very low rates to all points, and as I pack very light in baskets or crates, the express charges are less than might be supposed. Seven baskets are usually billed out for 100 pounds. Crates vary in weight according to size.

FREIGHT SHIPMENTS.

When cold weather sets in in November, I can ship plants all over the country safely by freight. The colder the weather, the better they will carry. I would advise those who want plants for early Spring to get them in November or December shipped by freight and heel them in until Spring, when they are ready as early as you wish to plant them.


In heeling in, always open each bunch, spread out well and pack dirt to roots firm as possible. They should then be covered with straw or leaves to protect them from the extreme cold if in the North. A good way to heel them is to take them into the woods and heel them in some protected place, as the soil in such places is usually almost pure leaf mould, and the frost will not heave them out.

By getting your plants by freight in November or December, you not only save the difference between freight and express rates, but you will save in many other respects. Your plants will reach you in first-class condition, without danger of heating, and every plant will grow when set in the field in the Spring. And from personal experience in planting plants that have been heeled in over Winter, and from observation, I am convinced that plants thus handled do better than those dug in the Spring. Would advise all those who wish plants for early planting to try this.

For several Winters past I have been shipping large quantities of plants to Southern California by freight and they reach there in the best of condition.



Hoeing Strawberry Plants on the Farm



FALL AND WINTER PLANTING.

In this latitude we can plant strawberries successfully in the Fall and at any time in the Winter when the ground is not frozen. I planted many acres last November and December and those plants now are the finest I have. I expect to plant heavy in the coming Fall and Winter. Fall planting can be done even in the far North if plants are covered with straw, manure or coarse litter to prevent heaving out when freezing weather commences. Fall and Winter planting is a success and will be practiced more and more every season as the growers learn the advantage in so doing.

NO CHARGE FOR PACKING OR PACKAGES.

We make no charge for packing or for packages, whether baskets or crates.

DIGGING STRAWBERRY PLANTS BY MULE POWER.

Mine is the only plant growing establishment that digs plants with mule power. This digger is drawn by four large mules and there is nothing to compare with it in digging plants, as it goes deep in the ground under the plants and takes them out with all the roots. This does away with leaving half the roots in the ground as is the case when dug in any other way. The soil under which the digger is run is elevated and pulverized and the plants are easily raked together with forked hoes by men who work right after the digger. They are then packed in sacks and labeled and taken at once to the packing house.

PACKING STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

As soon as the plants are received at the packing house all the dead leaves and runners are removed, the roots straightened and plants counted and tied up in neat bundles of twenty-five each. They are then packed in light baskets or crates, with roots well packed in damp moss. They are kept in the cool cellar until a short time before the express is due. Thus packed and handled, you get your plants fresh and in fine condition.

ORDER EARLY.

Do not delay sending your order until you are ready to plant, but order plants as soon as you know you will want them.

OTHER PLANTS.

I wish to call your attention to my large supply of Asparagus and Rhubarb Plants. These are all grown on rich soil and are very fine. You will find these priced in this catalogue.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

There is this season the shortest crop of strawberry plants ever known; this condition prevails all over the country. This, together with the fact that strawberries paid so well last season, will create a great demand for plants and there will not be half enough plants to supply the demand, and many of those that delay ordering until late will be disappointed in securing plants. To be sure of securing your plants order early. Order at once.

Description of Varieties



Klondyke

Klondyke (S).—This is one of the best strawberries that can be grown and is wonderfully prolific wherever berries grow and especially desirable in the South for market purposes. It is a good shipper, good size, good color, and sells at a stronger price than any other variety that enters the market during its ripening period. Southern growers are especially enthusiastic and commend it from the dollars and cents side of the question. It ripens about the same time as Lady Thompson and is larger than the Excelsior. Is a very showy

berry and the fruit is of highest quality, quite acid. The unusual firmness makes it a most excellent shipper. Uniform in size from one end of the season to the other, with no small berries at the end of its long season. Grown under hill culture it will produce four or five crops in a single season. Blossoms, green berries of all sizes and ripe ones in sight all the time. Foliage heavy,

dark green, rustless and rank, long stems, but the heavy foliage protects blossoms from possible frost, and other varieties have been known to frost kill right alongside. This is one feature of critical importance to a grower, whether he is a large grower or just a home grower; certainly a home grower should not take chances on planting a variety that frost kills easily.

Anna (S).—A very fine early berry, ripens about one week after the Excelsior. Resembles the Aroma very much in quality and appearance, fine flavor and good color. Considered one of the best medium early berries.

Aroma (S).—A late variety and among the best of the late ripening varieties. In comparison with the Gandy, it will be found that it commences to ripen a little earlier and will continue to the end of Gandy's season and is similar to it in size and productiveness.

It is planted extensively both North and South. Quality the best of any, comes nearer being the true strawberry flavor than all others. It is the best for eating from the vines, with cream, shortcake, preserved or canned. Its shipping qualities are of the best. There is no other variety that will stand shipping better or longer distances. Berry firm, solid, and not easily bruised. Color is the best of any variety, dark red all the way through. Foliage clean, healthy and very attractive, size large to very large and uniform.

St. Louis (S).—This is a new berry from Arkansas and is a seedling from Lady Thompson and Haverland. In size it is larger than the Lady Thompson and has produced berries of sufficient size for twelve to fill a quart box. Ripens at the same time as the Klondyke, but berries are of larger size. Plants are thrifty and without rust, and well rooted. Pickers will find the berries on long stems, adding to rapidity of picking. Flesh is firm and of delicate flavor, and the berry is a favorite among strawberry consumers.

August Luther (S).—This is an extra early berry of value, medium size, bright in color, the shape tapering from an extreme fullness at the calyx. Will ripen ten days earlier than the Haverland, which it resembles in fruit and in foliage. It can be successfully grown for marketing purposes or for family use, and it is a good shipper.

Bederwood (S).—Medium early, producing medium-sized berries of delicate color, with deep yellow seeds. Popular in the West, but can be produced profitably wherever strawberries will grow. It carries a small calyx which lies close to the fruit, giving the ripened fruit a finished appearance.

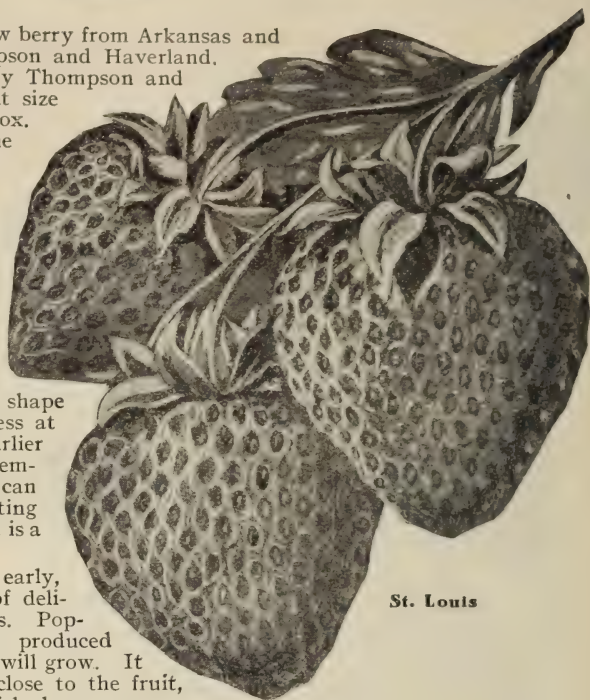
Bismarck (S).—Resembles the Bubach in plant and in berry. In shipping it will stand for long hauling and as a table berry it is one of the foremost in the list. A strong grower and very productive, and it can be recommended to plant along with the Bubach.

Brandywine (S).—A berry that has truly earned the popularity it enjoys. Large, deep red fruit, and a top-notch fancy market product, thrives on almost any soil. Ripens with the medium late class. Flesh firm and red all the way through. Productiveness above the average, ships well and is one that can be depended upon to give general satisfaction to growers. Is extra prolific in Northern and Middle States, and in Southern California and Florida. Cream color in the center; has a delicious flavor; foliage dark green, roots deep, enabling it to endure more dry weather than most varieties.

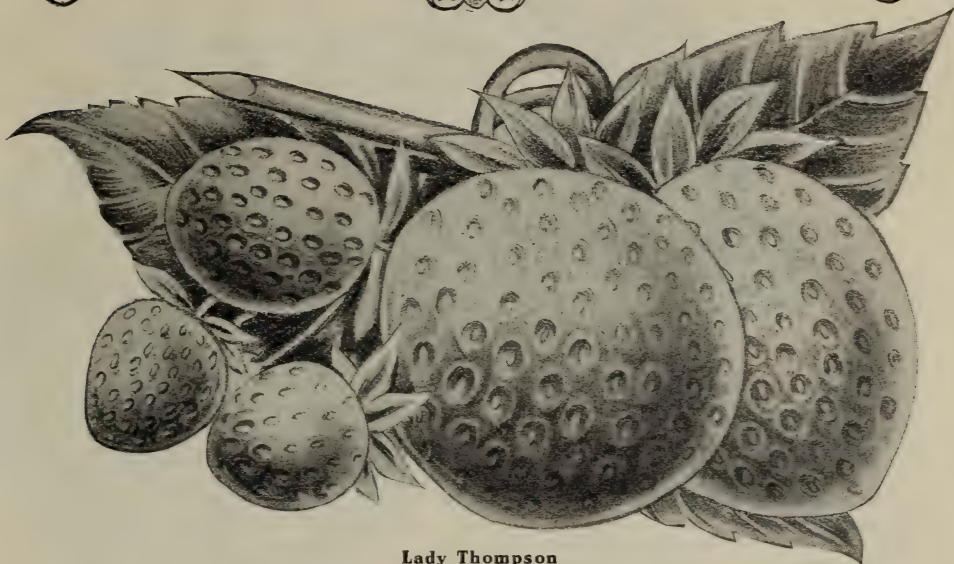
Bubach (P).—There has been a strong continuous demand for this berry for many years, which is evidence that it can be depended upon to produce a crop year after year. The berries are large, meaty and fine grained, bright red with a tendency to show a waxy surface. The exposed color extends through to the center of the fruit and the foliage is dark green. The fruit stem is short. It is a prolific and profitable producer.

Captain Jack (S).—An old variety that is not being planted very extensively. It is, however, considered one of the best for irrigated sections.

Chesapeake (S).—The original home of the Chesapeake is to an extent indicated by its name. It was introduced in Maryland and carries the name of the bay that furnished the state its waterway. It is a seedling and has many good points of many good varieties. The plants are large, vigorous, rustless and without an inferior point. Foliage thick and upright, with an almost round leaf. It is a large stemmed variety and much of the fruit is held from the ground by them. They are similar in size to the Gandy, but more productive, firmer and of better quality. Green tips are unknown in the Chesapeake. Is a good producer on any land that will grow strawberries.



St. Louis



Lady Thompson

Lady Thompson (S).—This is another great Southern berry. The fruit is of medium large size, a good shipper and has a good market value. It is also grown extensively in Southern California. Hundreds of growers in the South look to the Lady Thompson as their money crop. Another added advantage that it has is that it is one of the best drouth resisters.

Climax (S).—A variety worthy its name. It is one of the best producers in the list and the entire crop will be of well shaped berries. Should you be in doubt as to what to plant you cannot make a mistake by planting the Climax. It is one of the best table berries introduced in recent years. It has the necessary qualities to be classed as a good shipper and its appearance makes its demand in the market above the average. The berry carries a small calyx and the plants are strong and erect.

Clyde (S).—This berry is most popular in the Middle West. The plants are strong and thrifty, good producers of even size, requiring little sorting and permits the grower to harvest a product for which can be secured top prices. Has a long producing season, with perfect fruit in the last picking. A very large berry.

Crescent (P).—This berry is a wonderful producer of fruit of medium size. Close grained surface and solid flesh, features that make it a good shipper. It is a juicy berry with a pronounced flavor, a good canner and one that can be conscientiously commended for any planter.

Early Hathaway (S).—This berry, a seedling, is another Wilson-Hoffman combination, developing a perfect blossom, and is a good pollenizer. The fruit is firm, of attractive color and will reimburse the grower with the best price the market affords. It is a thoroughly desirable, early market berry.

Excelsior (S).—This berry has not become famous for the home garden, but for the producer who grows for market purposes. He will get in the Excelsior an extra early berry, one that can be grown profitably, capable of standing drouth and heat. A good berry for any professional grower, especially Southern growers. It is a seedling and a Wilson-Hoffman product. No more of any other extra early variety are grown for the market than Excelsior, and it is recommended for its productiveness, thrift and as a self-pollenizer.

Fremont Williams (S).—This is one of the top-notchers of late strawberries. It produces large dark red fruit of even shape, and the berries will grow up to two inches in diameter. Plants are large, strong, deep-rooted fellows, with large foliage and a perfect blossom. It is a particularly worthy variety and thrives and produces best when planted on good land.



Senator Dunlap

Senator Dunlap (S).—This is a country wide producer and is so recommended. The plants have enough health to get through on half a chance, and where they have an average show can be absolutely depended upon. The berry itself resembles the Warfield in shape, in color, and in period of ripening. It belongs to the drouth resisting class, yet is not liable to be injured by continued rainy weather during the picking season. It is above the average in the development of a crown and has an unusually long blooming season. A good pollinizer. Any observing grower will detect more favorable points about this berry than is given in this description.

Fuller (S).—Originated at Anna and named for James Fuller, a well-known veteran horticulturalist of Southern Illinois. It promises to be one of the very best new varieties. It ripens a few days earlier than the Senator Dunlap, and continues bearing as long. Very dark red, rather long, firm, and a splendid shipper. Plants, large, thrifty, healthy and rust-proof. This is the first time that this variety has been offered for sale, and every fruit grower should order a few to test. I know you would be well pleased with it.

Gandy (S).—The Gandy comes as near standing alone as a superior berry for the late market as any grown. It has more than ordinary firmness, and as a shipper it certainly has no superior. Plants are strong, healthy and good growers. Its color is bright red, smooth surface, dark red seeds and of delicious flavor. If a soil were to be recommended, a heavy clay soil or bottom land would be suggested. Will keep in good condition on the vine after ripening longer than most any other variety. It does best when some other late variety is planted with it. The Aroma is recommended for this.

Glen Mary (S).—Bright, yellow seeds are prominent in the big dark red crimson meaty berries, which are of high flavor, rich and juicy. This berry is not recommended to extreme Southern growers. However, it is a good firm shipper, popular, with good marketing qualities and is a favorite among all growers. It is capable of enduring more than an ordinary term of dry weather through the fact that it is a deep rooted variety and this makes responsible the dark green color of its foliage. The leaves are almost round, with a particularly glossy surface. Glen Mary should be planted near some staminate variety.

Haverland (P).—This is a mid-season producer and has more competition as such than either the earlier or the late variety, consequently when it is said that

the Haverland is a profit producing variety it means a great deal in its favor. The plants are healthy, vigorous and large, producing ample runners and is a producer of recognized ability. It is an extremely hardy variety and so productive that the stems are unable to hold the fruit from the ground. This makes mulching desirable, and that would assist to rapid handling at picking time. It is one of the good old varieties that have always stood good.

Jessie (S).—This is a fancy variety not adapted to all soils, but is strongly admitted by growers who can plant it in an adapted location. There is a steady demand for the plants—such a demand that a plant grower could not consistently be without it in his list. It is a good berry for either market or home use.

Louis Hubach (S).—This is a seedling produced from the Warfield crossed with the Lady Thompson. The plant is a vigorous grower and can be classed among the best of the drouth resisters. The fruit is large, a little rough, but very firm and shipping any equal long distance will arrive in as good a shape as any other berry shipped at the same time and under the same circumstances. A better producer than the Lady Thompson, soil conditions being equal. It is hardly possible that a grower could be disappointed in the Louis Hubach. In ripening it follows the early Hathaway by only a few days.

Michel's Early (S).—There are a few varieties equally well known, but a description is not out of place, that the descriptions of the newer berries may not cause this one to be overlooked by the grower who wants a medium sized, evenly colored berry, with a rich, mild flavor, solid meated and a splendid shipper. Foliage tall, the leaves are long and of light green color.

New Home (S).—In season and in size this berry will compare with the Gandy. Is an abundant producer on either high or low land. Its firm meat is one of its added advantageous features. It is a rich flavored fruit, with flesh of deep pink, seeds of brown and yellow and both glossy, altogether making a rich appearance. It is possible for pickers to pick as many as forty quarts an hour. This indicates how prolific it must be. Picking three times a week the New Home will deliver about one thousand quarts per acre each picking.

New York (S).—This berry is a New York state product, originated by a lady in Tompkins County. The berries are extra large, having a tendency to develop rather rounded, other broad and thick. The color a brilliant shiny red with seeds of same color and almost unnoticeable. It is a berry that can be commended to pull the best trade to the grower, and there are many varieties that would have no show alongside the New York. A prolific bearer during its entire season. It is a seedling of the Bubach and Jessie. Meat is smooth and flavor delicate, attractive to see and delicious to eat. The plants furnish a foliage that renders thorough protection to blossoms developing berries and ripened fruit.

Nick Ohmer (S).—This berry will commence ripening toward the end of the season for medium berries and will run from that to late. It is a berry of exceedingly rich flavor, large cone, especially firm, consequently a shipper of merit. Brown and yellow seeds add an attractive color, and with the green calyx gives a harmony that few berries possess. Foliage grows tall and has a crinkled leaf. Fruit stems extend up through the foliage, which lessens work at picking time. Blossoms are large and an exceptional pollinizer.

Parsons' Beauty (S).—Yields a remarkable crop of brilliantly colored berries of a flavor that will please the larger portion of those who are fond of this kind of fruit and a flavor that is retained after being cooked, making this one of the most desirable for canning purposes in addition to its use as it comes from the plant. It is a heavy stemmed variety with a bushy calyx, has an upright foliage with a long, leathery leaf of dark green. No soil or no climatic condition bars it from winning favor among strawberry growers. Parsons' Beauty was originated in Maryland and was largely and profitably grown during its early history at various points in that state. As a shipper it is not as good as some others for long distance hauling.

Red Bird (S).—This is a new berry and early and valued producer, and the plants will make a headway that is surprising to those who are familiar with the growth of strawberries. It ripens with the Excelsior, but is much more

productive and a little lighter in color than is the Excelsior, making a great pronounced showing in market. It belongs to the tart class, but there can hardly be another superior for early shipping. Southern growers will find this a very desirable selection to make, as well as the growers of the North.

Ridgeway (S).—The plant is strong and a vigorous grower, a good pollinizer, remains in bloom a long time. Berry runs up to very large in size and nearly round in form. Color a glossy crimson with dark yellow seeds. Size considered it is a firm berry and will stand up at the end of a long haul. Quality entirely dependent, making it a berry that commands a fancy market price.



Foreman D. A. Fisher and His Saddle Horse

Rough Rider (S).—A hardy staminate variety with berries large in size, glossy crimson in color and a very palatable fruit. It is a good producer, the second year being more productive than the first, and it is a mistake to turn this variety under after having harvested but one crop. A dark green spreading foliage and a plant with few runners.

Stevens' Late Champion (S).—This berry is classed with the Gandy and its good features have warranted its being placed in a list of the best old varieties. It is a better grower than the Gandy and will give full production on more different kinds of soil than will the Gandy and is more productive. The berries are splendid shippers, the

large dark red, rich flavored fruit commanding a market price productive of the greatest profit. Mulching with this variety is hardly necessary as the strong stems hold the fruit erect and from the ground. Plants grow strong runners and lots of them. It is staminate with an unusual quantity of pollen.

Tennessee Prolific (S).—If you want a vigorous and thrifty grower with full assurance of crop besides, the Tennessee Prolific ought to be planted, whether for market or for family use. The berries are of medium large size and in color a bright crimson and in shape longer than the average. Fine grained flesh, well juiced, popular as a canner and a shipper of recognized quality. It is one of the large calyx species and produces abundantly of runners and of plants.

Texas (S).—Lighter in color than the Excelsior and the fruit is sufficiently firm to be shipped to advantage. It is of extra early staminate and a good producer. The waxy surface of the ripened berries make a very attractive appearance. The fruit is rich and juicy and stands high for canning purposes. It does well in any soil and in any climate and is among the standard market and table varieties.

Uncle Jim (S).—This is a new variety that has come into high favor, and in the market top prices can be secured for them. In color the berries are of

a brilliant red and of high quality and the variety can be depended upon for production above the average. There are those growers who place Uncle Jim at the top of their list.

Warfield (P).—This is a pistillate variety and has a popularity that comes to but few varieties. It has a large beautiful cone shaped berry, with a fadeless dark red exterior, and the dark red color is retained to the center of this exceptionally juicy fruit, which is just tart enough to be deliciously palatable. It is a popular berry for canning, a good looker in market, a superior shipper and its general appearance on the vines is retained after it is in the market. Has a long fruiting period.

William Belt (S).—This is a medium to late staminate and produces a very large and beautiful berry of bright red exterior and interior—rich, juicy, meaty. A most desirable variety for table use. The calyx is small—not in proportion

to the size of the berry, and foliage extra tall and of light green, and the berries are distributed more evenly over the vines than most varieties, this feature making the picking a little slower. It has a long blooming season and as a pollinizer nothing better can be found.

ASPARAGUS

We are recognized throughout the country as growers of high grade Asparagus plants, and our plants are in demand everywhere.

This is one of the most profitable crops grown; it is a nice crop to grow and easily handled. The crop is produced very early in the spring, as soon as the frost is out of the ground. A field well planted will last a lifetime. Those who are interested in Asparagus



Foreman W. A. Coleman in His Office in Packing House

growing, on application, I will send free of charge a treatise on this subject.

French Argenteuil.—This is becoming the leading variety of Asparagus, and is being planted more extensively now than all other sorts. Its stalks are of mammoth size and of the highest quality. It is always in demand in the market and sells for the highest price. It is as far ahead of the ordinary varieties as the fine budded peach is of the small, insignificant seedling.

Palmetto.—This is a new sort, which is becoming quite popular. It produces shoots of very large size, which make it very valuable for market. While it does not produce as many stalks as the Conover's, yet they are a great deal larger. This sort is now being planted largely.

PRICE LIST.

*Plants will be sent postpaid at price quoted per 25.

**Add 20c per 100 to 100 rates if wanted by mail and plants will be sent postpaid.

Freight or express charges in all cases to be paid by purchaser.

The prices given below per 100 and per M. are for plants delivered at the freight or express offices in Anna or Jonesboro.

Fifty plants will be sold at 100 rates, and 500 plants at 1,000 rates.

(P) is for pistillate or imperfect blooming varieties.

(S) is for staminate or perfect blooming varieties.

The staminate varieties will all bear if planted by themselves, but the pistillate varieties must have a staminate variety planted with them, otherwise they will not produce good fruit.

STRAWBERRIES.

	*25	**100	1,000
Anna (S)	\$0.60	\$1.50	\$10.00
Anna (S) .....	.25	.45	3.00
Aug. Luther (S) .....	.30	.50	3.50
Bederwood (S) .....	.30	.50	3.50
Bismarck (S) .....	.35	.75	4.50
Bandyvine (S) .....	.35	.75	4.50
Bubach (P) .....	.35	.75	5.00
Captain Jack (S) .....	.35	.60	4.00
Chesapeake (S) .....	.50	1.00	7.50
Climax (S) .....	.35	.60	4.00
Clyde (S) .....	.35	.75	4.50
Crescent (P) .....	.30	.50	3.50
Early Hathaway (S) .....	.30	.50	3.50
Excelsior (S) .....	.35	.60	4.00
Fremont Williams (S) .....	.50	1.00	7.50
Fuller (S)	2.00	5.00	30.00
Gandy (S) .....	.25	.45	3.00
Glen Mary (S) .....	.35	.75	5.00
Haverland (P) .....	.35	.75	4.50
Jessie (S) .....	.35	.60	4.00
Klondike (S) .....	.25	.45	3.00
Lady Thompson (S) .....	.25	.45	3.00
Louis Hubach (S) .....	.35	.60	4.00
Michel's Early (S) .....	.30	.50	3.50
New Home (S) .....	.50	1.00	7.50
New York (S) .....	.50	1.00	7.50
Nick Ohmer (S) .....	.35	.60	4.00
Parker Earle (S) .....	.35	.75	5.50
Parsons' Beauty (S) .....	.35	.60	4.00
Red Bird (S) .....	.35	.75	4.50
Ridgeway (S) .....	.35	.75	5.00
Rough Rider (S) .....	.35	.75	5.00
St. Louis (S) .....	.50	1.00	7.50
Senator Dunlap (S) .....	.25	.45	3.00
Stevens' Late Champion (S) .....	.50	1.00	6.00
Tennessee Prolific (S) .....	.35	.60	4.00
Texas (S) .....	.35	.60	4.00
Uncle Jim (S) .....	.35	.75	5.00
Warfield (P) .....	.25	.45	3.00
Wm. Belt (S) .....	.35	.75	5.00

ASPARAGUS.

Giant French Argenteuil	\$0.45	\$ 3.00
Palmetto35	2.50

RHUBARB.

Rhubarb Roots	\$5.00	\$30.00
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TESTIMONIALS

Ill., July 1, 1909.

The 90,000 plants ordered by our Association last spring came promptly, well packed, and arrived in fine condition, so much so that not 1 per cent was lost in transplanting. The parties who received said plants speak of them in the highest praise and commendation, and if we make further orders for plants it will be to you, for we know we will receive fair treatment and good plants.

SOL. H. GRACE, Sec.-Treas.

Ill., July 6, 1909.

I am glad to inform you that I have had the best of success with the strawberry plants that I got from you last Fall. They came through the Winter in fine shape and at present they are looking fine. Fall is certainly the time to send for strawberry plants. I have seldom had such good success with plants received in the Spring.

D. SPIERS.

Fla., July 8, 1909.

I have always advised my neighbors to purchase their plants from you, as I find that I get better plants, better rooted. My loss on the last lot was really nothing.

S. C. LITTLEFIELD.

Miss., March 12, 1907.

The plants have arrived and in fine condition. I am very much pleased with them, and if I am ever in need of any more plants I will certainly order them from you.

MRS. N. H. OTTLEY.

Kentucky, March 19, 1907.

Two years ago I got of you one thousand Klondyke and they made the finest berries last spring I ever saw in this country, the biggest crop and the biggest berries, all good berries and no bad ones.

JOHN J. GIRVIN, JR.

Ill., April 1, 1909.

The plants received all O. K. I am well pleased with them.

R. G. WHARTON.

Ky., April 12, 1909.

Received the plants in fine condition and was well pleased with them. All good plants and good count. Thanking you for your square dealing, I remain, yours truly,

G. H. SIEBE.

Ark., March 16, 1909.

The plants which I received reached me in good condition and are the finest I have ever bought.

CHAS. H. ALLISON.

Ill., March 13, 1909.

Was most agreeably surprised by the fine plants which I have just received. They arrived in fine condition.

J. R. NEAL.

Ga., Dec. 7, 1908.

The plants came through O. K. Entirely satisfactory.

F. L. WALTHALL.

Mo., June 24, 1909.

Have used your strawberry plants and find they give entire satisfaction.

MRS. CHAS. DARBY.

Va., June 24, 1909.

Mrs. J. T. W. Houston told me that several years ago she got from you the most satisfactory strawberry plants she has ever had so I am writing you.

MRS. A. V. SIMS.

Tex., June 7, 1909.

I referred quite a number of people to you for strawberry plants because you are the best man with whom I ever did business in the plant line.

H. A. WATTS.

Miss., June 28, 1909.

The 100 Red Bird I bought of you last fall beat everything in the strawberry line for fine berries, and lots of them.

JOHN C. BENDER.



Cultivating Strawberries in Alabama from Plants Grown by Me

MY PLANTS A SUCCESS IN CALIFORNIA



This car of strawberry plants was sold to the strawberry growers of Los Angeles County, California, and was shipped on the 22d of December, 1906. The plants arrived in fine condition, and the growers were well pleased with them, as will be seen by the following letters.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., Jan. 16, 1907.
Car of strawberry plants has arrived and unloaded today. Plants are in good shape.
A. F. BOWRON.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., Jan. 25, 1907.
The carload of strawberry plants has been unloaded and all distributed, and am happy to report that everything was O. K. The plants were all in good condition and tallied out exactly, and everything was satisfactory.
A. F. BOWRON.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., Jan. 21, 1907.
I have just received the forty thousand strawberry plants ordered from you in December. They arrived in fine condition; am well pleased with them. I wish to compliment you on your method of packing. You will hear from me again in the near future.
C. F. GARRISON.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., Jan. 23, 1907.
The plants you sent arrived in fine condition.
MRS. ANNA D. McCLATCHIE.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., Jan. 22, 1907.
Every one who sent for plants by me is well pleased with them.
O. S. GORHAM.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., Jan. 22, 1907.
S. Otsuki wishes me to write you that his order and I. Ike's have been received, and that they are well pleased with the plants.
ERNEST HAUGHTON.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., April 8, 1907.
The Klondyke is the finest berry grown here. I am getting \$3.00 per crate for them while I only get \$2.00 for Lady Thompson.
O. S. GORHAM.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., Jan. 15, 1907.
Plants from you last year are giving the finest results in this locality.
GEO. MICHAEL.

Calif., Sept. 14, 1907.

I have just returned from Los Angeles, and while there I heard of the wonderful success they are having from your strawberry plants, and am placing an order with you for 400 plants.
JNO. TATJES.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., Feb. 19, 1908.
Your carload of strawberry plants arrived here in fine condition. I have seen some of the plants after they were unpacked from the crates. They certainly have the appearance of being fine, thrifty, young plants.
ERNEST L. HAUGHTON.

Calif., June 17, 1909.
The plants I got from you a year ago are doing fine and are making a great showing. I find that plants from your section make a good showing in California. I think I will plant quite a good many this Fall. I want your plants as they beat anything I have ever planted.
F. G. BURLAND.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., Aug. 1, 1906.
A neighbor of mine has an acre of Klondyke strawberries set from your plants. They have done finely.
FRED. I. BROWN.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., Aug. 9, 1906.
As you shipped good plants to this section last winter I would like to buy of you, if you have supply of same.
ERNEST HAUGHTON.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., Jan. 25, 1907.
I received berry plants the 23d in good order.
I. YAGUCHI.

Calif., Aug. 27, 1907.
The plants we got from you did fine, in fact the amount of berries they produced was a matter of astonishment to even old growers, and I feel that better plants could not be had.
A. F. BOWRON.

I have had a great deal of experience in shipping strawberry plants to California, and I find the best way is to ship by freight in the winter, as they arrive in excellent condition. I usually assemble all my California orders and ship in carload to Los Angeles, and distribute from there. I have shipped several carloads in this way.



RESIDENCE OF W. W. THOMAS, THE STRAWBERRY PLANT MAN, ANNA, ILLINOIS.